Survey of Mini Steel Plant

3145. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any survey to find out the existing mini steel plants in the State of Maharashtra both operational and closed ones;

(b) if so, the details thereof, category-wise;

(c) whether Government have formulated any plan for the revival of closed mini steel plants in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) to (d) A survey of the closed Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) units was conducted in 1994 by the Evaluation Group set up by the Government to inter-alia suggest suitable remedial and other measures for the survival of this sector. As per their report, out of 31 EAF units, 19 units were closed in Maharashtra.

Subsequently, Government had also constituted a Core Group to assist those of closed units which are interested in drawing up revival strategies and preparing bankable reports.

Exodus of executives from Durgapur Steel Plant

3146. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Executives have left Durgapur Steel Plant after receiving training at the company's expense;

(b) if so, the number of Executives that have deserted the Company, alongwith the estimated expenditure incurred on their training programme;

(c) the reasons for their exodus from the Durgapur Steel Plant; and

(d) the measures taken by Goverment to check the trend?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Facilities at the Rourkela Steel Plant

3147. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH SURYA:
SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether facilities have been set up at the Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) in collaboration with ARAMCO of United States to manufacture CRGO Steel Laminations;

(b) if so, how much money was invested in the project and when;

(c) what has been the production of the material so far on an annual basis, vis-a-vis the installed capacity; and

(d) what factors have come in the way of production of the material as per installed capacity?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) The facilities have been set up to manufacture Cold Rolled Grain Oriented (CRGO)/Cold Rolled Non-Grain Oriented (CRNO) electrical sheets in collaboration with M/s. ARMCO, USA.

(b) An amount of Rs. 178.18 crores was invested for the Silicon Steel Project (CRGO/CRNO). The CRGO project was commissioned in June, 1988.

(c) Against the installed capacity of 37,500 tonnes per year of CRGO project, the year-wise production of CRGO sheets since inception has been as follows:

Year	Production (T)
1988-89	275
1989-90	1685
1990-91	105
1991-92	3040
1992-93	400
1993-94	370
1994-95	500
1995-96	172
1996-97	111

(d) The low production has been due to technological constraints in steel making, high temperature rolling, intermediate gauge annealing and coating apart from the high cost of production of CRGO due to low yield and quality problems making it non-competative in the present liberalised market.